

MARRIAGE ON PAPER

Chapter 26

Some time later, even though Ryleigh tried to find Damian, she could not do so no matter how hard she looked, as though Damian had vanished from the face of the earth.

His phone was always turned off whenever she tried to call him.

Things were getting hectic at school as graduation was approaching.

Ryleigh needed to focus on graduation to alleviate her anxiety and depression.

Professor Ohl's automotive design internship project team finally decided on the R&S Group headquarters as the workshop's location.

R&S Group had reserved half of the 12th floor for the project team's exclusive use. The team members had been very busy moving machines and other things as well as arranging various materials over the last few days.

Ryleigh, Sophia, and several others were in the design group, while Alice was in the sales promotion group.

Due to the Lev family's connections, Sophia managed to get herself a spot in the project team.

Even though the students were not in school, they remained together during their internship.

Today was the first official day of the internship.

Ryleigh arrived at the R&S Group headquarters on her own. Even though she usually stayed at Paxton's

house, she only asked Aaron to drive her to the subway station. After all, her relationship with Paxton could not be made public.

In front of the headquarters building was a massive fountain square with a magnificent European-style sculpture.

It was her first time there. She stood downstairs, looking up at the massive structure. The golden glass was seamlessly connected and extended infinitely into the sky. There were probably eighty or ninety floors, and the sunlight dazzled her when she tried to look at the top of the building.

Indeed, anyone would be astounded by the majestic view that was a testament to R&S Group's wealth.

Ryleigh was dressed simply in a white shirt, a black skirt, and a backpack on her back. She looked out of

place.

"Ha! I see a peasant in front of me. Without your fancy clothes, do you think you're all that?" A shrill taunt rang out from behind Ryleigh.

The voice was somewhat familiar.

Ryleigh turned around to meet a pair of eyes with a penetrating gaze that seemed to want to kill her right then and there. The fiery red dress, thick makeup, and matching style belonged to Merlyn Sandel, who had previously bothered her at the banquet.

Merlyn came to R&S Group today to discuss car model advertisements, but she had no idea she would run into Ryleigh near the entrance. She had investigated Ryleigh's background following the previous incident and found that Ryleigh was an orphan with no background. So, who was she to fight

with her?

Ryleigh had humiliated her at the banquet, and she had yet to exact retaliation.

It was true that enemies often crossed paths.

Ryleigh could sense her hostility.

Merlyn was abrasive, and her sharp gaze swept over Ryleigh's cheap clothes before she said, "You're dressed for the streets. How could you possibly be worthy of Mr. Lev? Have you ever looked in the mirror? How could you desire a man like him?"

Ryleigh turned to leave because she did not want to look for trouble at the office entrance.

In the eyes of the opposing party, silence and ignorance were sometimes an even greater

provocation.

New hatred was piled on top of old enmity. Merlyn had been provoked. She charged forward, raising her hand to slap Ryleigh across the face.

Ryleigh was quick on her feet and managed to avoid being hit. She caught Merlyn's wrist and slapped her with her backhand without hesitation.

"I didn't respond before this because I didn't want to cause any trouble. However, that doesn't mean I'm a pushover. You ought to know when to stop."

Merlyn's face turned red with anger. She tried to pull her hand away, but Ryleigh was the stronger woman. She was so enraged that she did not care about her image and charged at Ryleigh like a mad dog, pinching her with her other hand.

"Stop. Let her go."

Paxton saw that spectacle as he got out of the car.

He pushed Merlyn away, drew Ryleigh behind him, and said coldly, "You hurt her."

He saw that Ryleigh's arm was bruised. Merlyn had obviously caused that.

Merlyn exclaimed in disbelief when she saw Paxton Lev, "She hit me! How could I have hurt her? You can see where she hit me. Why are you protecting her instead?" She pointed at her face hysterically.

"Don't cause trouble." Paxton issued a warning.

"What is your relationship with her, Mr. Lev? She's not even your type." Merlyn groused vehemently.

Paxton refused to look at her and said coldly, "It is entirely up to me which type I prefer. Who are you to question?"

Merlyn was so envious that she took her rage out on Ryleigh. "Why are you so bold? Haunting a man who does not belong to you. Please tell me how much money you want before you leave him. Set a price! Take the money and leave right now!" Ryleigh, according to her feminine intuition, would be a significant threat who needed to be dealt with as soon as possible.

"I can name a price?" Ryleigh found it intriguing and gave Paxton a funny look.

Paxton's expression darkened, and he glared at Ryleigh. His sharp gaze was brimming with murderous intent.

If this woman dared to set the price, she'd be a dead man walking!

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